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Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 SIL-01 LAB-06 EB-11 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 SS-20 SAM-01 /092 W
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R 012204Z FEB 74
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6105
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 0403

FOR GEORGE PHILLIPS, ARA-LA/MRSD/L (AID/W)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, CS
SUBJECT: COSTA RICA AIFLD COUNTRY LABOR PROGRAM

REF: EICHER MEMO TO JFMACK DATED 1/18/74

1. WE HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO YOUR CHANGES TO OUR DRAFT CLP NARRATIVE. WE DO , HOWEVER, VIEW THE AID PROGRAM OFFICE DECISION TO REDUCE OUR PROPOSED FY-74 AIFLD/CR BUDGET BY $9,600 BACK TO $98,000 AS SHORTSIGHTED. GIVEN THE IRREDUCIBLE FIXED COSTS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PORTION OF THE BUDGET, WHICH WILL CONTINUE AS LONG AS AIFLD/CR MUST SHOULDER THE ENTIRE FINANCIAL BURDEN OF A FULL-TIME CPD AND STAFF, THE FULL WEIGHT OF THE BUDGET CUT MUST PERFORCE FALL ON THE EDUCATION PROGRAM. THIS OF COURSE MOVES US PRECISELY IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION WE SHOULD BE GOING SINCE LABOR EDUCATION IS THE SOLE REASON AIFLD IS HERE. WE HAVE EXPENDED A CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO REDESIGN OUR NEW CLP TO PUT THE INESS LABOR EDUCATION INSTITUTE ON ITS FEET IN THE SHORTEST TIME POSSIBLE. AID/W SHOULD STAND FOREWARNED THAT REDUCTIONS IN THE EDUCATION PROGRAM WILL SIMPLY DELAY THE DAY WHEN INESS REACHES FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL SEL-SUFFICIENCY. THE CUTS ALSO WILL RAISE THE PROPORTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS TO ABOUT 60 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL AIFLD/CR BUDGET. IF, HOWEVER, THE MANDATED
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BUDGET RESTRICTIONIS IRREVERSIBLE, WE RELUCTANTLY REQUEST YOU MAKE THE CUTS IN THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO MINIMIZE THE

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HARM THAT WILL BE DONE TO OUR LABOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

A. REDUCE THE PROJECTED SIX INESS INSTRUCTORS BY THREE FOR A SVAINGS OF $3,600.

B. REDUCE THE PROJECTED TNE FRONT ROYAL SCHOLARSHIPS TO FIVE SAVING $2,000.

C. ELIMINATE THE GEORGETOWN LABOR ECONOMICS SCHOLARSHIP SAVING $1,200.

D. ELIMINATE FUNDING FOR ORIT COURSES AT CUERNAVACA SAVING $960.

E. REDUCE FUNDING FOR SPECIAL ITS AND ORIT COURSES BY $1,840.

TOTAL SAVINGS WOULD BE $9,600.

2. ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT BUDGETARY RESTRAINTS MAY CONTINUE TO BE THE ORDER OF THE DAY, WE BELIEVE THAT OVER THE LONGER RUN WE CAN ASSURE ADEQUATE FINANCING OF OUR LABOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS ONLY BY ACHIEVING SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS IN THE CURRENT, TOPHEAVY ADMINISTRATIVE SIDE OF THE BUDGET. ONE POSSIBLE MEANS TO EFFECT THIS, WHICH MAY BE WORTHY OF FUTURE CONSIDERATION BY AID/W AND AIFLD, WOULD BE FOR AIFLD TO SHARE ITS CPD AND STAFF, AND THUS ITS FIXED ADMINISTRAATIVE COSTS, WITH AIFLD, NICARAGUA.

3. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE SUBSTANCE OF THIS CABLE WITH CPD RUSSILLO.VAKY

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